Australian Government
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Surface water recovery required under the Basin Plan including the Sustainable Diversion Limit Adjustment Mechanism[1] and 450 GL for enhanced environmental outcomes as at 30 June 2024

Incorporating accredited Water Resource Plans and updated water recovery factors for New South Wales

	Basin Plan targets[2]			Recovery of entitlements to Bridge the Gap to Basin targets					Recovery of 450 GL for enhanced environmental outcomes[8]					
SDL resource unit (or shared zone)	Local target	Shared target[3]	Apportioned supply contribution[4]	Commonwealth led recovery: Entitlements registered to the CEWH	Commonwealth led recovery: Entitlements in contract[5]	Entitlements held by Basin states[6]	Local recovery remaining[7]	Shared recovery remaining[7]	Target	Efficiency measures registered to the CEWH[9,10]	Efficiency measures in contract[9,10]	Additional HEW registered to CEWH[11]	Additional HEW in contract[11]	Recovery remaining to 450 GL
Condamine-Balonne	100.0	0.0		86.0	1.1		12.9							
Moonie	0.0	2.1		2.8										
Nebine	1.0	2.8		3.8										
Paroo	0.0	0.0												
QLD Border Rivers	14.0	0.0		14.4										
Warrego	8.0	12.1		20.1										
Northern Basin QLD Zone	**123.0**	**17.0**	**N/A**	**127.2**	**1.1**	**0.0**	**12.9**	**0.0**		**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	
Barwon-Darling	32.0	0.0		28.7	0.2	1.7	1.3							
Gwydir	42.0	7.6		47.9		6.7								
Intersecting Streams	0.0	13.8		13.8										
Macquarie-Castlereagh	55.0	2.6		70.0		25.8								
Namoi	20.0	0.0		14.0	3.2		2.8							
NSW Border Rivers	7.0	0.0		2.0			5.0							
Northern Basin NSW Zone	**156.0**	**24.0**	**N/A**	**176.4**	**3.5**	**34.3**	**9.2**	**0.0**		**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	
Northern Basin Zone Total	**279.0**	**41.0**	**N/A**	**303.6**	**4.6**	**34.3**	**22.0**	**0.0**		**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	
Lower Darling	8.0	14.3	0.0	23.2										
Murrumbidgee	320.0	277.9	162.0	416.1		26.2				5.6				
NSW Murray	262.0	165.8	124.8	303.0	0.2	0.1								
Southern Basin NSW Zone	**590.0**	**458.0**	**286.8**	**742.4**	**0.2**	**26.4**	**0.0**	**0.0**	450.0	**5.6**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	422.5
Australian Capital Territory[12]	0.0	4.9	0.0	4.9								**1.5**		
Southern Basin ACT Zone	**0.0**	**4.9**	**0.0**	**4.9**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**		**0.0**	**0.0**	**1.5**	**0.0**	
Broken	0.0	1.3	1.1	0.3		0.1								
Campaspe	18.0	13.2	2.6	6.5		22.4								
Goulburn[13]	344.0	186.4	174.5	332.8		36.0				2.5	5.0			
Kiewa	0.0	1.1	1.3											
Loddon	12.0	9.8	10.9	2.1		10.2								
Ovens	0.0	2.7	3.0	0.1										
Vic Murray[13]	253.0	210.8	72.8	372.2		20.7				4.5	5.7			
Southern Basin VIC Zone	**627.0**	**425.3**	**266.2**	**714.0**	**0.0**	**89.3**	**0.0**	**0.0**		**7.0**	**10.7**	**0.0**	**0.0**	
Eastern Mount Lofty Ranges	0.0	0.0	0.0											
Marne-Saunders	0.0	0.0	0.0											
SA Murray	101.0	82.8	52.0	134.7		6.3				2.7				
SA Non-Prescribed Areas	0.0	0.0	0.0											
Southern Basin SA Zone	**101.0**	**82.8**	**52.0**	**134.7**	**0.0**	**6.3**	**0.0**	**0.0**		**2.7**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	
Southern Basin Zone Total	**1,318.0**	**971.0**	**605.0**	**1,595.9**	**0.2**	**122.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**		**15.4**	**10.7**	**1.5**	**0.0**	
Lachlan	48.0	N/A	**N/A**	36.2		11.8	0.0							
Wimmera-Mallee[14]	23.0	N/A	**N/A**	23.2										
Total Murray-Darling Basin	**1,668.0**	**1,012.0**	**605.0**	**1,958.9**	**4.8**	**168.0**	**22.0**	**0.0**	**450.0**	**15.4**	**10.7**	**1.5**	**0.0**	

Total recovery achieved	Remaining to Bridge the Gap
2,131.7	**22.0**

Total efficiency measures	Total additional HEW	Remaining to 450 GL
26.0	**1.5**	**422.5**

Notes:

For total water recoveries allow for minor rounding. All water recovery figures are expressed in gigalitres per year long-term diversion limit equivalence (GL/y) terms.

1. The Sustainable Diversion Limit Adjustment Mechanism (SDLAM) amendment instrument commenced in law on 13 January 2018. More information is available at: www.dcceew.gov.au/water/policy/mdb/water-recovery/how

2. Amendments to the Basin Plan as a result of the Northern Basin Review (Basin Plan Amendment Instrument (No.1) 2018) commenced in law on 3 July 2018, reducing the water recovery target in the northern Basin from 390 GL/y to 320 GL/y.

3. Valid shared reduction re-allocation requests were received from Queensland and South Australia before 1 July 2018. Valid shared re-allocation of shared reduction amounts were received from Victoria and New South Wales before 31 December 2018 and were formally agreed to by the Authority following agreement with the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources on 12 March 2019. Shared reduction re-allocation is shown in this table.

4. This table assumes a total supply contribution of 605 GL/y, which is subject to final reconciliation by the MDBA. The supply contribution reduction has been distributed between surface water SDL resource units in accordance with schedule 6 of the Basin Plan. The apportioned supply contribution for: Southern Basin NSW Zone is 286.8 GL/y (47.4%), Southern Basin Victorian Zone 266.2 GL/y (44%), Southern Basin SA Zone is 52 GL/y (8.6%) of the total supply contribution.

5. This water recovery is contracted in funding agreements and will be registered with the CEWH as agreed milestones and associated water transfers occur. Water recovery is reported at the point at which water savings or purchase have been received, estimated or agreed in signed contracts. Until water transfer contracts have settled however, these figures may be subject to change over time.

6. State Recovery figures are current as at the reporting date shown.

7. Estimates of water recovery are calculated using water recovery factors that allow for comparison with Basin Plan targets. These water recovery factors may be updated during the WRP accreditation process to account for the best available information. This table has been prepared consistent with accredited Water Resource Plans (WRPs) or is shown with updated factors for New South Wales. The finalisation of NSW WRPs may change the volumes reported. Further information on water recovery factors is available on our website: www.dcceew.gov.au/water/policy/mdb/water-recovery/progress-recovery/accounting

8. The Basin Plan includes provisions to recover an additional 450 GL/y for enhanced environmental outcomes. This can include recovery through efficiency measures projects that involve infrastructure improvements achieved with neutral or improved socio-economic outcomes. The *Water Amendment (Restoring Our Rivers) Act 2023* further enables recovery through various means to increase additional Held Environmental Water. Funding for this recovery is provided through the Water for the Environment Special Account.

9. A minimum 62.0 GL/y of efficiency measures must be recovered for the full 605 GL/y supply contribution to be realised. The MDBAs assessment of the State Government nominated supply measure projects found that SDLs across the southern Murray-Darling Basin can be increased by 605 GL/y, reducing the required volume of environmental water to be recovered by this amount. Prior to implementation of the SDLAM, the total surface water SDL for the Murray-Darling Basin is 10,873 GL/y (as at 24 November 2012, when the Basin Plan first took effect). In accordance with s.7.19 of the Basin Plan, the SDL of 10,873 GL/y may only be adjusted through the SDLAM by a net five per cent, i.e. a net maximum of 543 GL/y. While the net five per cent applies at the Basin-scale, individual SDL resource units may increase or decrease by greater than five per cent, as long as the net Basin-wide SDL remains within the five per cent range. If the full 605 GL/y of supply measures are realised, the Basin Plan gap-bridging recovery target is 2,075 GL/y.

10. Efficiency measures are projects that generate water recovery through infrastructure improvements achieved with neutral or improved socio-economic outcomes. These measures contribute to meeting the 450 GL target for enhanced environmental outcomes. The associated water entitlements shown here are registered to the Commonwealth's environmental water holdings. Entitlements contracted for recovery, that are not yet registered to the Commonwealth, are shown separately as still under contract.

11. Entitlements nominated as additional Held Environmental Water also contribute to meeting the 450 GL target for enhanced environmental outcomes. The associated water entitlements shown here are registered to the Commonwealth's environmental water holdings. Entitlements contracted for recovery, that are not yet registered to the Commonwealth, are shown separately as still under contract.

12. An entitlement that was acquired in 2014 to meet the ACT shared reduction target was recovered from the NSW Murrumbidgee and is shown as recovery in that SDL resource unit. A further entitlement was contracted in March 2024 to satisfy the ACT's shared reduction target.

13. Water recovered through the GMW Water Efficiency Project has nominally been assigned to the Goulburn and Vic Murray SDL resource units. However due to the interconnected nature of the irrigation system, water savings may also be transferred from the Campaspe or Loddon SDL resource units. The initial transfer of entitlements were registered in 2023 as scheduled. The remaining transfers are scheduled for registration in April 2024 and source catchments will be confirmed at that time.

14. The Wimmera–Mallee surface water resource plan was accredited as being consistent with the Basin Plan and commenced on 24 September 2019. As a result the local and shared reduction amounts have been assessed as fully recovered.